

NALP International and Advanced Degree Recruiting and Advising Section

October 2010 Quarterly Report

The section had an active quarter, culminating in a conference call on October 18. The call was attended by approximately 20 people; primarily school representatives, and a few employer representatives. The two main agenda items were updates to the New York State Bar Exam regulations for foreign-trained students, and government hiring for non-US citizens.

Summary of Section Activities:

Bulletin articles:

- **Advising International JD Students** (Sara Marshall/BU & Elise Kraemer/UPenn). The article address common career counseling concerns when working with international JD students, including visa issues and common cultural concerns. *Ready for November 5 submission.*
- **Counseling Students Left Behind** (Charlie Cramton/Cornell & Clara Solomon/NYU). Submitted for November issue, connected with the Experienced Professionals Section. The article provides quick tips and encouragement for career counselors working with students (especially international students) who have been “left behind” by the nascent economic recovery.

Workgroups:

- The **Webinar Workgroup** is determining a date on which they can host a webinar for new LL.M. advisors and smaller schools. The current plan is for all three workgroup members to meet in New York (possibly at NYU) to conduct the webinar together. Early in the spring semester is the target date. Workgroup members: Charlie Cramton/Cornell, Elise Kraemer/UPenn, Jeanine Dames/Yale.
- There is discussion of creating a new workgroup to update the **LL.M. Student Brochure** produced by NALP a number of years ago. This discussion will be taken up again in the next quarter.

“Hot Topics” for the Section:

- Recent movement from the New York State Board of Legal Examiners to reinterpret eligibility requirements for foreign-trained attorneys continues to be a major concern for many section members. While the requirements have not technically changed the Board of Legal Examiners has instituted stricter policies on proof of eligibility from foreign-trained lawyers, including the requirement that students submit proof that their foreign law school is “accredited” and also that a student’s foreign transcripts be sent directly to the Board. Many student advisors are concerned that international students may not be able to meet this burden. The Section decided that a formal work group on bar issues is not necessary, as there is no achievable “goal” for this group. Rather, the Section will continue to monitor developments with the New York State Bar Exam closely and provide resources to section members with concerns and questions about new Exam regulations. Charlie Cramton from Cornell is instrumental in this communication.

- Federal Government hiring of non-citizens (JD and LL.M. candidates) is another topic of discussion, as the December 2009 Appropriations Bill essentially eliminated the ability of any government employer to hire a non-citizen. We continue to monitor updates and are hopeful that lobbying from the Federal Bench and elsewhere will result in a change to the 2010 Bill. Section members shared ideas and resources for non-citizens interested in state and local government opportunities as an alternative.

Conference proposals accepted:

- **Cultural Intelligence in Our Global Profession** (Marni Caputo/Harvard & Lauren Rasmus/Dewey)
- **Counseling for International Public Interest Opportunities** (co-sponsor with the Public Interest Section, Sara Rakita/NYU & Akua Akyea/Columbia)